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PATENT

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Applicant(s) : Klaus TANK, Raymond Albert CHAPMAN,
Roy Derrick ACHILLES

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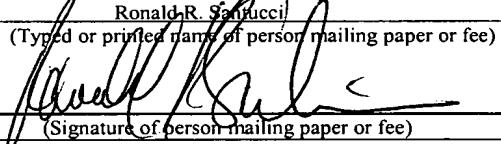
745 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10151
212-588-0800

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above referenced patent application,

Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows: